REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

The Applicants have amended claims 1-3, 8, and 9. Claims 4-7 have been canceled; and claims 13-15 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-3 and 8-15 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In paragraphs 1-2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Honkasalo et al. (US 6,636,497). Of these claims, claims 4-7 have been canceled. The Applicants have amended claims 1-3, 8, and 9 to better distinguish the claimed invention from Honkasalo. The Examiner's consideration of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

Amended claim 1 recites a Universal Mobile Telephony System (UMTS) comprising a radio network controller in communication with a core network, and a Node B coupled to the radio network controller. The Node B includes means for controlling a plurality of its Node B internal resources for admission control.

The Examiner pointed to Honkasalo FIGS. 1A-1B, and col. 3, line 46 through col. 4, line 52 for showing a Node B that controls a plurality of its Node B internal resources for admission control. However, while FIG. 1A of Honkasalo illustrates a high-level block diagram of a 3rd generation UMTS system, FIG. 1B illustrates a 2nd generation GSM system, not a UMTS system. (see col. 3, line 66 through col. 4, line 4). Honkasalo's discussion of FIG. 1B indicates that the GSM base station controller typically manages radio resource control, inter-cell handover control, power control, timing and synchronization, and paging of user equipment. (Col. 4, lines 43-46). However, the discussion of the UMTS system of FIG. 1A does not disclose a Node B that includes means for controlling a plurality of its Node B internal resources for admission control.

Since Honkasalo does not disclose a UMTS system in which a Node B includes means for controlling a plurality of its Node B internal resources for admission control, the withdrawal of the rejection under § 102(e) and the allowance of amended claim 1 are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-3, 8, and new claims 13-15 depend from amended claim 1 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of claim 1. Therefore, the allowance of claims 2-3, 8, and 13-15 is respectfully requested.

Specifically regarding claim 8, this claim has been amended to recite that the radio network controller is a controlling radio network controller that controls the Node B to meet general network requirements, but does not control Node B internal resources for admission control. Basis for the amendment of claim 8 is found in the originally filed specification on page 7, lines 8-12.

New claims 13-15 recite that the Node B controls its Node B internal resources to perform various admission-control functions, and reports to the controlling radio network controller only that the functions have been performed, but does not send a resource status indication to the controlling radio network controller. In the prior art, the Node B reported the status of its internal resources to the controlling radio network controller because the controlling radio network controller also controlled the Node B internal resources. Basis for new claims 13-15 is found in the originally filed specification in the following locations:

Claim 13: FIG. 2; page 8, lines 1-20;

Claim 14: FIG. 5; page 11, line 20 through page 12, line 12; and

Claim 15: FIGS. 6-7; page 12, line 13 through page 14, line 12.

Therefore, the allowance of claims 13-15 is respectfully requested.

Independent claim 9 has been amended to recite a 3rd generation mobile communication system comprising a controlling radio network controller, and a Node B coupled to the controlling radio network controller. The Node B includes means for controlling a plurality of its Node B internal resources for admission control in accordance with parameters given in a message from the controlling radio network controller to the Node B. As noted above, Honkasalo discloses only that the base

station controller in a 2nd generation GSM mobile communication system manages radio resource control, inter-cell handover control, power control, timing and synchronization, and paging of user equipment. (Col. 4, lines 43-46). However, the discussion of the 3rd generation UMTS system of FIG. 1A does not disclose a Node B that includes means for controlling a plurality of its Node B internal resources for admission control. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection under § 102(e) and the allowance of amended claim 9 are respectfully requested.

Claims 10-12 depend from amended claim 9 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of claim 9. Therefore, the allowance of claims 10-12 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-3 and 8-15.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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